

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /082 W

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R 241501Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8160

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18385

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, PLO, UR, XF

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN DELEGATION DISCUSSES MIDDLE EAST WITH GROMYKO

1. PRAVDA (DEC 24) REPORTS THAT JORDANIAN DELEGATION HEADED BY ABDUL RIFA'I MET WITH GROMYKO FOR DISCUSSIONS OF "THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, MEANS OF RESOLVING THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, AND QUESTIONS OF SOVIET-JORDANIAN COOPERATION." ACCORDING TO THE PRAVDA REPORT, THE TWO SIDES STRESSED THAT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY "IF ALL ARAB LAND IS LIBERATED FROM THE ISRAELI AGGRESSORS, IF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE ARE PROTECTED, AND IF THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALL STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE REGION ARE ESTABLISHED."

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2. BOTH PARTIES, PRAVDA CONTINUES, DECLARED THAT A RECONVENED GENEVA MEPC IS NECESSARY AND IS THE MOST SUITABLE FORUM FOR REACHING A GENERAL SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. THE TWO SIDES ALSO CALLED FOR THE PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PLO "FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AND ON AN EQUAL BASIS WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS". RIFA'I, PRAVDA ADDS, ON BEHALF OF THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESSED HIS THANKS FOR SOVIET SUPPORT GIVEN THE ARAB PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE TO LIQUIDATE THE VESTIGES OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION.

3. AN ACCOMPANYING TASS REPORT STATES THAT THE DELEGATION HELD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS AT THE MFA DURING WHICH THE SOVIET SIDE WAS HEADED BY FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV.

4. COMMENT. THE LANGUAGE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT PROVIDES NO HINT THAT A DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED PROVIDING FOR PLO PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA AS PART OF THE JORDANIAN DELEGATION. THIS COULD, HOWEVER, SIMPLY REFLECT SOVIET RELUCTANCE TO REVEAL SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT--IF IT EXISTS--AT THIS TIME. CONVERSELY, SERIOUS SNAGS MAY HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED. OUR SOURCES HERE TELL US THAT THE DELEGATION IS LEAVING MOSCOW CHRISTMAS DAY FOR A TRIP TO LENINGRAD, AND WILL DEPART THE SOVIET UNION ON DEC 29, AFTER WHICH WE HOPE TO UNCOVER FURTHER DETAILS ON WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED. STOESSEL

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